their lacklustre performance in finding new oil/gas reserves or completing and running refineries on time and efficiently;

(b) if so, what are the basis for this perception in view of our dependence upon on import of major component of crude/petroleum products every year; and

(c) whether it is possible to find future oil or gas reserves from frontier depths under the sea where only new technology will succeed?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) Public Sector Undertakings, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) employ the latest technology for pursuing their E&P objectives. These technologies are being inducted through work association/contractual services or through outright purchase. In last 5 years, oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have added more reserves than the oil & gas production in corresponding years. In 2006-07, crude oil processing was about 141.463 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT), which is 11.4% higher than 126.986 MMT in 2005-06. ONGC has made two gas discoveries during 2006-07 in Mahanadi offshore as a result of exploratory efforts.

Centre for High Technology (CHT), a registered society under Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, has signed an agreement with Shell Global Solutions International B. V. (Shell GSI) of the Netherlands for an "Integrated Business Improvement Programme" for four Indian refineries at Mathura (IOCL), Chennai (CPCL), Vizag (HPCL) and Kochi (BPCL).

(b) At present, there is 70% import dependence on petroleum products. As our economy is growing at a rate of about 9% of Gross Domestic Products (GDP), demand for petroleum products is likely to increase from 119.8 MMT in 2006-07 to 131.767 MMT in 2011-12. The consumption of petroleum products may also increase upto 141.793 MMT in 2011-12.

(c) The estimated Hydrocarbon resources are about 28 billion tonnes, out of which, about 8.8 billion tonnes of in-place reserves have been established. During XI plan period, 80% of Indian sedimentary basinal area will be under exploration including deepwater and frontier areas also.

Conditions of society workers at ONGC-KG basin

1589. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC and Krishna Godavari (KG) Basin management went into an agreement with the registered societies engaged in the supply of workmen at KG Basin;

(b) if so, what are the terms and conditionss that are agreed upon; and

(c) whether the management is regularizing the services of 60 members of society workers per year?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Rajahmundry has entered into an agreement with registered co-operative societies for various job contracts of miscellaneous and intermittent nature. The co-operative societies engage workmen based on the job requirement.

(c) No Sir.